

# Mean three-dimensional circulation in the NE tropical Pacific

Kessler, 2002. JPO, 32, 2457-2471.

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- Use XBT data and Quikscat winds to diagnose the mean circulation.
- Unlike the familiar central Pacific, winds in this region are dominated by easterly jets through three gaps in the mountains. These produce a pattern of curl that is quite different from that further west, and imprint on the circulation.
- The interconnections among the well-known zonal currents of the central Pacific are complicated and three-dimensional.

SST in the East Pacific Warm Pool

